MEMORANDUM

PA 90-A
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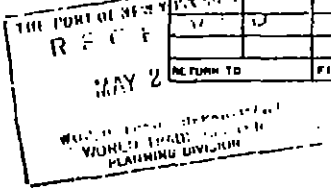

TO: John M. Kyle, Chief Engineer
FROM: Guy F. Tozzoli
DATE: May 19, 1966
SUBJECT: THE WORLD TRADE CENTER - BUILDING CODE

REFERENCE:

COPY TO: P. Falvey, M. Levy, R. Sullivan

In answer to your memorandum of May 9th, you will recall that the decision to follow the new Code was made with your concurrence after careful consideration of the problems involved. The decision to follow the new Code was, as you pointed out in your memorandum to Mr. Levy of June 22, 1965, based on the fact that: (1) the new Code had been thoroughly reviewed by interested technical groups and was modified to meet all major objections; (2) it would probably be adopted before we constructed our buildings and (3) the Commissioner favored the approach of using advanced techniques in the design of the Trade Center and that the Port Authority, according to him, was not subject to the provisions of the Building Code.

At the present time it would be extremely costly to redesign the Trade Center to conform to the old Building Code. A major portion of the architectural, mechanical and structural work already completed would have to be scrapped and the project would be greatly delayed. In view of these facts I see no choice but to proceed upon the course we have already set. Even assuming that the Code is not adopted for another year, it should still be in effect before we construct the superstructure of the Trade Center.

I do not feel it is appropriate at this time to approach the City with a list of variations between our present design and the existing Building Code. Such a list would, of course, be extensive since we have followed the revised Code which differs substantially from the existing one. I am sure that the new Code will eventually be adopted. Any attempt on our part to reconcile the two designs at this time would only cause unnecessary trouble and possible misunderstanding. I do feel, however, at the appropriate time we should explain to Mr. Ferro our exact reasoning in designing to the new Code. I am confident that there will be no problem.

Guy F. Tozzoli, Director
World Trade Department